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LOCAL NOTICES.

John Pancoast Rickenor

Will keep on submitting to the public and advantageously offer, at reduced prices, W. Stuart, &c., Cassey Shaw, 108 Smithfield street, Philadelphia, Penna.

Beaver Seminary and Classical

Institute.—Winter session opens January 5, 1869. R. E. Taylor. 4*

A Handsome Present

In favor of Dr. WILCOX'S Palm Petrol could be given. It won't stain, smell or burn; harmless as water.

Country Merchants

Save money and time by purchasing their goods at McHarron & McFadden's Dry Store, 55 Market street, corner Diamond, near Fifth avenue. tf

The Emperor of Austria

Suffered for years with Sore Throat, Hoarseness, Bronchitis, Coughs, Colds, &c., and was cured by Dr. Wistar's BALSAM OF WILD CHERRY, who was cured. The mention of this remedy, Dr. Wistar's BALSAM OF WILD CHERRY, was presented to an astonished world by the Emperor, who was pleased to so acknowledge it, which he had found relief from its use. Sold by Druggists throughout the country. 6m

Economy is Wealth.

We would say act upon this suggestion and go to the popular Patent Medicine Depot of Joseph Fleming, No. 52 Fifth avenue, and supply yourself with all the necessary *Drugs, Patent Medicines, Perfumery*, etc., etc. It is generally acknowledged that the assortment of this depot is the largest of the kind in the country, and the best. *Preparations* for the most part, and the low rate at any other establishment in the city. 6m

FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M.

WASHINGTON.

The Cabinet Question Solved.

Hamilton Fish, Appointed Secretary of State; Gov. Boutwell, Secretary of the Treasury, and Gen. Rawlins, Secretary of War—Hon. E. B. Washburne Appointed Minister to France—The Appointments Unanimously Confirmed by the Senate and Approved by the People—Affairs at the Departments—Rush of Office-Seekers at the White House—Commissioner Delano Overrun with Applicants for Office—The Foreign Missions — Binckley Assaults Deputy Commissioner Harland.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 11, 1869.

The Cabinet Completed.

The Cabinet question which has puzzled Washington politicians more than an ordinary nut for several days, has been quickly solved by the President. It was telegraphed last night that new appointments would be made to-day, and the rumor was confirmed early this morning to get the earliest indications of the selections. Great crowds were at the Senate, and the hour from noon to one o'clock was spent in anxious expectancy. It was generally believed, as it has been for some time, that Governor Boutwell would get the Treasury department, but it was known that New York's claims were pressing several candidates, and many of the closest observers in Congress feared the Senate would not be disposed to ratify without considerable opposition, if at all, the wishes of the President.

The name of Hamilton Fish has been on Grant's slate all the while for the mission to England, and it is understood that yesterday morning he sent a couple of Senators that he intended giving that place to Mr. Fish. It seems, however, that he finally consented to appoint New York with the State Department, and accepted the proffer of the mission to England, and sent word to that effect to the Senate. The Senate galleries were cleared as soon as the nominations came in, and the cabinet appointments were read in executive session. They were at once confirmed without reference, and unanimously, the compliment in this respect to Mr. Washburne being very unusual. He appointment to France was that of General Rawlins to the War Department. The nominations as a whole are quite satisfactory to the people here, some persons think Mr. Fish will not accept, but the President generally believes he will, and is giving him the appointment. There was nothing of special importance at the Department to-day. Mr. Washburne was at the place for an hour or two, but having tendered his resignation, did not assume official business.

The Departments.

Secretary Boutwell spent the greater part of the day with Admiral Porter, in examining and with the duties of his office.

Secretary Rawlins was engaged for a while in looking over matters needing early attention, and then formally received the heads of bureaus and inquiries in the Department.

Postmaster General Creswell was busy as usual, and has already got several hundred applications for postoffices.

Attorney General Hoar was startled in practice before the bar of the Supreme Court and attended with the President as to some cases left over by Mr. Evarts.

Assistant Secretary Hartley had charge of things at the Treasury.

The White House

Was swelled to-day by a great division of the noble army of office seekers. They were admitted in a body by the President, presented their papers, passed out, and continues the work to-night. The various members of the Diplomatic Corps called at two o'clock, and as usual brief speech making took place. An hour later a considerable delegation of Georgians called and stated their grievances, to which the President responded that he must assume her and order them there, as that every man could be free in his opinion and expression of them. He also said he hoped the Georgia Legislature would adopt the new Constitutional amendments.

The Internal Revenue Office.

Commissioner Delano was overrun with visitors this morning, and before noon was compelled to close his doors and decline seeing people. He says he will not be driven from the current service to night and direct accountability for the manner in which he performs his duties, and will remove every official whom he finds idle, corrupt or inefficient. The force of clerks and employees is to be reduced as soon as possible to the new wing of the Treasury building, and work was begun this afternoon.

Offices Determined Upon.

Among the offices said to be determined upon to-day are these: Judge F. Woods, to be retained as Postmaster at Columbus, Ohio; Professor Nourse, of Ohio, now at Rio, to be Minister to Bolivia.

The Foreign Missions.

Mr. Sumner has urged J. L. Motley strongly for England, and believes he will be appointed. The President and he should meet to-night at a dinner given by Mr. Sumner. Some think Mr. Marsh will be retained in Italy, while many believe Mr. Shellabarger, of Ohio, is going there.

Minister Bancroft, Mr. Clay's resignation of Boston Minister has been received.

Washburne Congratulated.

A large number of Illinoisans called on Mr. E. B. Washburne at his residence and presented him with congratulatory resolutions, to which he responded in a happy and feeling manner.

Binckley as a Bully.

Binckley one at last proved a perfect success as a bully. Yesterday he watched for D. Rollins as he came to the Revenue bureau, and attempted to assault him with a heavy cane. Mr. Rollins, however, ended him, and passed into the building. Commissioner Delano was present at the time, when Binckley struck him over the head twice, and looked him down. Harland got up and tapping with Binckley and was fast getting the worst of him, when Binckley was pulled away. The latter then went and gave himself up to the magistrate and was bound over in three hundred dollars to appear.

Another Land Job.

Mr. Pomeroy introduced an entirely new piece of job. It grants one hundred and fifty thousand acres of land in Kansas to a company brought to be organized to build a line across the Kansas river at Lawrence. The road is to be selected from the public lands now open to Kansas by the State and appointed for the purpose by the Governor. The object of the grant, as stated, is to make water power and stock water navigable.

Governor of Wyoming.

General J. A. Campbell, of General Schofield's staff, is to be appointed Governor of Wyoming Territory.

Order Revoked.

The President to-day, on the recommendation of Mr. Rollins, made two or three steps on the subject of the order issued on the 25th ultimo against all setting aside suits at St. Louis against Col. Lawrence, Allis and others for illegal internal revenue frauds.

Reduced to Ten Pounders.

Postmaster Dole, who was instrumental in getting Postmaster General Brice retired by President Johnson, has been ordered to San Francisco.

Attorney General Hoar

Last night went to the residence of Reverdy Johnson to tender the resignation from the Supreme Court bench of that State.

WASHINGTON, March 11, 1869.

CONFIRMATIONS.

The President has directed the withholding of commissions for the present from the United States District Attorney of Texas and Collector of Internal Revenue for Philadelphia, both confirmed in the opening hours of the last Senate, and it is now stated that it is necessary for the President to issue a commission, although it may have been signed by Andrew Johnson, and that he has the right to do so, and he will exercise it. A commission often antedates the instrument which precedes it. Mr. O'Neill, Brent, surrender his office, on his confirmation; only three days' salaries allowed, and Mr. Marks cannot receive those. Chief Clerk Ingalls, of the Treasury, will remain in office, on his confirmation, which is withheld from him either by order or omission of the President.

PRESIDENT'S NEW SECRETARY OF STATE.

The Republicans of the Pennsylvania delegation held a caucus Tuesday night to consult relative to the appointments in their State. Senators Cameron and Scott were present, and they all agreed to be bound by the caucus decision. It was decided that each member should have control of the appointments in his own district, and that no two members should control the appointments in the Pennsylvania districts.

THE SECRETARIES OF GEORGIA.

A delegation of members of the Georgia Legislature, headed by Foster Blodgett, Chairman of the Republican state Committee, and accompanied by J. M. Cliff, member of Congress, Col. Hopkins, Col. Prince and Messrs. H. W. Turner and J. M. Simmons, of the lately expelled members of the Georgia Legislature, waited on the President about three o'clock this afternoon, and presented him a memorial, setting forth their grievances in the premises, and asking that the reconstruction acts and the act of admission of June 25, 1868, be literally complied with. The delegation was received in the most gracious manner, and after waiting a short time for the President to finish writing a letter to his office, Mr. Blodgett addressed him on the subject of their visit. The memorial was then presented to the President, who, after reading it, said that he would have to think about and talk over the matter before he was able to give them any reply to what had been said or presented. What he would do he would have to think about and talk over. He wanted to see one thing done, and that was, that the people of Georgia should be treated in their own opinion exactly as the people of Connecticut to see the speedy establishment of law and order in the State. He had seen in the papers that the Legislature of Georgia were about going into session, and that the Fourth Amendment, and incidental how they would dispose of it. Mr. Blodgett replied they would not ratify it. The President in the further line had informed him this would be the case. He would say to the delegation that the people were interested

The Daily Commercial.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1869.

The Fifteenth Amendment of the Federal Constitution was ratified in the State Senate yesterday, by a strict party vote.

The bill authorizing the Governor to appoint two Inspectors of steam boilers in each Congressional District of the State, has passed the second reading in the House at Harrisburg. It is an important law.

The appointment of Mr. WASHBURNE as Minister to France realizes the general expectation. One report assigns Gen. CURTIS to Russia, but at this moment there appears to be a disagreement whether or not his name was sent in with Mr. WASHBURNE'S.

It seems to be understood that Mr. MORRISON, of Washington county, who was removed by Mr. JOHNSON from the office of Marshal of the Western District of Pennsylvania, will be restored by President GRANT. We presume that the appointment has been fully determined on if not already made.

One of the first acts of Secretary BOUTWELL, of the Navy Department, was to relieve Messrs. JOHNSON, HAVERSTICK, WADE JOHNSON and ROSE, of the Engineer Corps, and order a Court of Inquiry to investigate their acts. It is known that there has been gross mismanagement in that branch of the Government, and this prompt action of the new Secretary shows that he knows when and how to commence business.

The removal of the old and appointment of a new set of Pacific Railroad Commissioners means business in that direction, most emphatically. In regard to this work General GRANT, while admiring what there is about it to admire, has, it is understood, put his foot down concerning those things which have been done as they ought not to have been, and others which have not been done at all. Surely, we have a change of administration!

The Inaugural Address of *President* GRANT is favorably received by the Southern press and people, and that section of the Union evidently feels a confidence in the future to which it has heretofore been strangers. While they do not regard President GRANT will solve the reconstruction knot, they feel that a stable policy and an honest administration of the Government will be best for them as well as for the country at large. If the Southern people ever expected of GRANT the slightest deviation from the policy of the Reconstruction laws, the prompt reiteration of the old commanders will unbosom them.

The nomination to the Senate yesterday of General LONGSTREET, to be Collector of the port of New Orleans, was a judicious act of recognition of the reconstructed portion of the Southern people, and a step that will exert a most beneficial influence on the Southern mind. Gen. LONGSTREET was the first after the surrender to return to the Union, in spirit as well as word. He took ground openly for the reconstruction laws and the policy of Congress, and has since pursued a course that has won for him the esteem of the whole North and of the right minded men in the South, though those who were rebels still have omitted occasion to denounce him.

The Springfield *Republican*, referring to the prospect of Mr. BOUTWELL becoming Secretary of the Treasury, and the consequent displacement of Judge HOAR from the post of Attorney General, says: "In any event, we accepting the place continue from the CABINET the best confidence that GRANT and SUMNER would have had in their efforts to strike against corruption—we mean Judge HOAR. The country at large does not half know how admirably the Attorney General is fitted for just that sort of co-operation which the Secretary of the Treasury will need; but we know it, and much as we could say in praise of Mr. BOUTWELL, we must regret it as a calamity, if his going into office shall drive Judge HOAR out."

RE-CASTING THE CABINET.

President GRANT sent to the Senate yesterday the name of HAMILTON FISH, of New York, for Secretary of State, in the place of Mr. WASHBURNE, who has resigned; GEORGE S. BOUTWELL, of Massachusetts, in the place of Mr. SUMNER, ineligible, and General RAWLINS for Secretary of War, in the place of General SCHOFIELD. Mr. FISH is well known to the country as one of our most solid and safe men. He has no superior in his elevation of character, and his counsel will always be wise. He will bring to the management of the questions entering in his department a well balanced judgment, firmness of purpose and true dignity of manner. Mr. BOUTWELL has already been so thoroughly discussed in this connection that nothing need be said concerning him. He is understood to have been the President's first choice for the position, and we are certain that the country will warmly approve of the selection. This remark is equally applicable to Gen. RAWLINS, who succeeds Gen. SCHOFIELD. On all sides he is acknowledged to be peculiarly the man for the position.

The recast of the Cabinet has conferred increased strength on the administration, and removed every obstacle to its easy working. The Cabinet is much the strongest for its new make-up, both as to itself and the public.

With Judge HOAR still in the Cabinet, Massachusetts has two representatives. We presume that this objection—if it be one—will soon be removed by the appointment of this gentleman to another position.

ALEXANDER T. STEWART.

As a rule, persons who suspect and misconstrue the motives of others are not above suspicion themselves. The tone adopted by some of our exchanges in discussing A. T. STEWART'S offer to place his business in the hands of trustees, to be administered in aid of the charities of New York, to enable him to accept the Secretaryship of the Treasury, is not calculated to elevate them in the estimation of fair minded men. As the matter is now settled, and Mr. STEWART is neither part nor parcel of the Administration, we cannot be accused of partiality or bias in expressing our opinion concerning his claims to our admiration as a man, a christian and a patriot. Those who pretend to measure the height of his ambition with his princely offer simply betray their ignorance of him and of public sentiment. We have rarely ever seen an instance where public sentiment responded so promptly as to the appeal addressed to their better nature in the princely proposition made by Mr. STEWART. Nor was it to be wondered at. What age, what country or what people can point to anything at all approaching this offer? The profits of Mr. STEWART'S business for four years would probably exceed *six million dollars*. This sum he proposed to set apart for the benefit of the needy and helpless. How absurd to suppose for an instant that in making this unparalleled offer Mr. STEWART was actuated by petty ambition! His private and public life, as well known liberality, and decided views on all matters concerning the management of public affairs, and his very age preclude such a conclusion. Those who know the man, and who have had ample opportunity to observe the operations of the broad, catholic spirit which animates his every movement in the social and commercial world do not require to be reminded of these things. The man who drew his check for a larger sum than any other in response to the first demand made upon his patriotism, who offered to make it a million, if necessary, and afterwards declared that all he had belonged to the Government, together with his own, and the services of his army of clerks, at the head of whom if need be he would march to the field, attended his faithfulness to the Government in no ordinary manner. Mr. STEWART'S benevolence, like his patriotism, always takes a practical turn. One of the most charitable enterprises ever conceived is now engaging his attention. Two years ago he expended upwards of $120,000 upon a piece of ground in New York upon which he proposes to erect a working woman's hotel at a cost of $2,000,000! Ground has already been broken, and the project is under way. This is but the beginning of his beneficiaries. He proposes to supply homes for working men, also. Yet the man who conceives and executes these colossal schemes of practical benevolence, the like of which has never been attempted in our country, is accused by narrow minded people of a desire for the possession of power from sordid motives.

When he made his offer Mr STEWART thought, and every one who knew him thought, that he would experience little trouble in relieving the alumni in the Treasury Department. For our own part, we have no doubt that his management would have saved the country untold millions and inaugurated a system that would have made our future clear. He possesses rare qualifications and a still rarer experience.

One phase of the case must have struck every observing mind. Although Mr. STEWART'S name was before the country but five days, in that brief space of time the man and his qualifications attracted the attention of the country and filled public mind almost to the exclusion of everything else. This, we submit, would not have been the case had any ordinary man occupied a similar position. The mass, we apprehend, appreciate Mr. STEWART'S noble aim, as they cannot fail to appreciate the talent of all citizens—*practical benevolence*.

THE LAW of 1789.

The existence of the statute of 1789 which disqualifies Mr. A. T. STEWART for Secretary of the Treasury, may prove of some value to the country. It will provoke inquiry into the causes which induced its enactment, and the relations which such causes bear to the present condition and necessities of the Government. The spirit underlying is so indeed admirable, but we see no reason why it should not be applied to every department and branch of the Government. As we understand it the intention is to prevent the manipulation of the affairs of the Treasury Department for corrupt purposes, and to secure an honest and faithful administration of the financial interests of the country. But honesty and economy in the Treasury Department cannot alone secure honesty and economy in any other Department. The disqualifications and restraints which hedge around the Treasury cannot prevent the appointment of men who will corruptly use the powers of the other Departments as their own and against the public interests.

But while we believe that all Departments of the government should be equally protected, we can see no good reason why there should be a law to exclude from the Treasury office the class of men above all others to which the ablest financial talent in the country belongs. The more we examine the law, the more we feel it impossible to obtain a thoroughly competent person who fully conforms to its requirements. The disqualifying clause is as follows:

> "No person appointed to any office mentioned in the act, shall directly or indirectly be concerned or interested in carrying on the business of trade or commerce, or be owner in whole or in part of any sea vessel, or purchase by himself or another in trust for him, any part of the public stock or other property of the United States, or of any state, or of any prize or other property or effects condemned by the sentence of any court, lawfully authorized to make such condemnation; and if any person shall accept any of the said offices, and shall during the time he shall continue in the same, exercise any of the powers or authorities thereof, he shall forfeit and pay to any person who will sue for the same, the sum of two thousand dollars, to be recovered with costs of suit in any court of record in the state where the offender may be found."

A strict construction of the clause will either compel the selection of a mere "machine," or if a competent person is chosen, he compel him to dispose of all commercial and financial interests and to deprive him of the legal right to manage his personal concerns in such a way as to increase his substance. The law books are full of the definition of a "trader," and when those who are indirectly allied to those who are directly concerned or interested in trade or commerce, the number of persons excluded becomes enormous. It is but fair to presume that the man who is not dishonest in his own interests is not competent to manage those of the Government. On the contrary, the public affairs are more likely to be well managed by one who has prospered in the management of his own. To ask such a man to dispose of all private interests, and to lay his wealth up in a napkin for four years, is another a standing in business acquired by years of incessant toil and struggle, is to ask more than the Government pays for and more than should be expected.

The law excludes almost every man who has means invested in the ordinary channels, and, as we believe, the last clause of the above quotation would deny the Secretary of the Treasury the right of receiving dividends on shares in banks whose profits are derived in whole or in part from the purchase and disposal of State and Federal securities.

The purpose of the disqualifying clause seems to be to remove the temptation to act corruptly. Does it do so? We think not. While the direct interests of a man engaged in trade or commerce may tempt him to act corruptly in office, it is just as reasonable to suppose that a man not engaged in either may be tempted by a sufficient consideration from those who are to-focus. We would prefer to have a man for Secretary of the Treasury who is actively engaged in trade or commerce, than one who secretly confluence with another in such business. In the one case, corrupt practices might be more readily discovered than in the other, and the penal provisions of the law, which we would retain by all means, enforced. In the one case the private business of the Secretary would be under the eye of the public, but in the other he might amass a colossal fortune without any knowledge of the public whatever as to its source, and if common rumor is not more than usually at fault, this has been done more than once in our time.

Eighty years have gone by since the law was enacted, and mighty changes have occurred in the people, Government, and our public interests. Then our resources were unknown and undeveloped, but now our trading, commercial, financial and manufacturing interests are dwarfing those of the greatest nations upon earth. Such are the ramifications of our interests that all our people are involved in them. In view of such changes, we do not think that the same necessity exists for the law, as we can see no sound reason for excluding a more limited of men appointed to certain of those from participation in our expanding public interests.

WHAT POLICY?

The tone of the Republican press and the current of public opinion in support of the course of the new Administration in filling the offices, are highly encouraging indications. But the reform aimed at is not going to be achieved without a struggle. Powerful influences are at work to prevent any reform and to retain the old system, whereby not merely party services have been rewarded, but cliques and rings, with vast arrays of retainers and hangers-on, have subsisted from the public treasury and whereby, too, not less than two hundred millions of the revenue is stolen every year. The contest is now going on, but with a resolute man for President, more resolute now than ever, we cannot doubt what will be the result. It is something wonderful to see how many there are who have proclaimed as loudly for reform, and know so well the need of it, who fall back in dismay at the first practical stroke. They appear not to have been in earnest about the matter, but playing a part before the people. Not so, however, the people themselves. *They* are for no backward step, and will support the new Administration so long as the Administration was ever yet supported in carrying out measures for "the faithful collection of the revenue, a strict accountability of every dollar received and the greatest practicable retrenchment in every department of the Government." On this platform the position of the Administration will be impregnable, and the shrieks of cliques, rings and disappointed politicians will avail nothing. Having secured its policy in these clear, ringing words, the new Administration has nothing to do but to go ahead, and execute it with the most vigorous fidelity. The country expects nothing short of this, and the people will applaud while the cliques and rings howl and threaten.

We could fill over columns with what the Republican press is saying on this subject, but we give the following only as samples. The Harrisburg *State Guard* reproduces approvingly what we had to say a few days ago on "Clique Rule in Pennsylvania," and commends thereon as follows:

> "The sentiments thus expressed by the Commercial are sound and sensible, and what the people now ask of Grant is, that he insist upon a strict adherence to the principles of the success of the Republican party as a reform organization, rather than by the conflict and factional feuding of partisan Representatives. The people have obtained such force that it matters little whether the people want to office at the dictation of the National Administration, they cannot be excluded from their functions and Representatives do not sanction what they do in representing the people. We think not, and we are also sure that unless President Grant offers a just defense to the wishes and wants of the mass of Republicans, that will be outraged and he will be defeated in the disposal offices at the commencement of his administration. Public attention is awake to this subject. We are glad of things and shall watch and help the people now call on Grant to clear them out, and not listen to the pleas of corrupt politicians."

The Detroit *Tribune*, a trusted organ of the Republicans in Michigan, says:

> "Gentlemen of the county of the politicians there is no use who desire to be appointed to office under Grant's administration, must immediately come. It is particularly well known that their solicitations regarding it has been that they could make a better President than this, Grant, and although the latter holds the office and has the responsibility, give credit to the former for the greatness, and this is for their own selfish interests. Should ever President Grant feel that he could not succeed himself with men of this character and associations, and lose its power with them, or be embroiled in a serious fall administration. Feeling this, he made selection of men whose aims will be his own, whose ambitions do not transcend upon his fortune, who will accept and not dictate policies, who sentiment, and with whom he can co-operate harmoniously."

The Boston *Traveller*, reflecting the intelligent sentiment of New England, remarks as follows:

> "It seems to be time that President Grant has settled upon the officers of his cabinet, in the formation of his Cabinet, one has no selected politicians for his future connection. If he continues to avoid political managers in the conduct of his administration, the country will have reason to be gratefully grateful. The people are intelligent and wise. Most of the men now in the country are at home, engaged in their own business affairs, but there can readily see and understand how much more they are interested in Congress in political maneuvers than in devising the best means of securing themselves, or promoting the welfare of the country. Their votes are wanted in political conventions, and the great interests of the people are crowded into the last hours of every session of Congress. It is impossible for the wisest and best legislation to proceed under these circumstances. The demagogues and politicians represent some portion of the country in Congress, hence, and partisan questions will struggle to rule against it."

The Philadelphia *Gazette* employs not less pertinent language, when it says:

> "We therefore have conditions from which conflagrations may be kindled at a single touch. Let us trust in that honesty and economy will be at the very heart of the administration. And this is one of those things which have been done as they ought not to have been, and others which have not been done at all. Surely, we have a change of administration!"

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As a rule, persons who suspect and misconstrue the motives of others are not above suspicion themselves. The tone adopted by some of our exchanges in discussing A. T. STEWART'S offer to place his business in the hands of trustees, to be administered in aid of the charities of New York, to enable him to accept the Secretaryship of the Treasury, is not calculated to elevate them in the estimation of fair minded men. As the matter is now settled, and Mr. STEWART is neither part nor parcel of the Administration, we cannot be accused of partiality or bias in expressing our opinion concerning his claims to our admiration as a man, a christian and a patriot. Those who pretend to measure the height of his ambition with his princely offer simply betray their ignorance of him and of public sentiment. We have rarely ever seen an instance where public sentiment responded so promptly as to the appeal addressed to their better nature in the princely proposition made by Mr. STEWART. Nor was it to be wondered at. What age, what country or what people can point to anything at all approaching this offer? The profits of Mr. STEWART'S business for four years would probably exceed *six million dollars*. This sum he proposed to set apart for the benefit of the needy and helpless. How absurd to suppose for an instant that in making this unparalleled offer Mr. STEWART was actuated by petty ambition! His private and public life, as well known liberality, and decided views on all matters concerning the management of public affairs, and his very age preclude such a conclusion. Those who know the man, and who have had ample opportunity to observe the operations of the broad, catholic spirit which animates his every movement in the social and commercial world do not require to be reminded of these things. The man who drew his check for a larger sum than any other in response to the first demand made upon his patriotism, who offered to make it a million, if necessary, and afterwards declared that all he had belonged to the Government, together with his own, and the services of his army of clerks, at the head of whom if need be he would march to the field, attended his faithfulness to the Government in no ordinary manner. Mr. STEWART'S benevolence, like his patriotism, always takes a practical turn. One of the most charitable enterprises ever conceived is now engaging his attention. Two years ago he expended upwards of $120,000 upon a piece of ground in New York upon which he proposes to erect a working woman's hotel at a cost of $2,000,000! Ground has already been broken, and the project is under way. This is but the beginning of his beneficiaries. He proposes to supply homes for working men, also. Yet the man who conceives and executes these colossal schemes of practical benevolence, the like of which has never been attempted in our country, is accused by narrow minded people of a desire for the possession of power from sordid motives.

When he made his offer Mr STEWART thought, and every one who knew him thought, that he would experience little trouble in relieving the alumni in the Treasury Department. For our own part, we have no doubt that his management would have saved the country untold millions and inaugurated a system that would have made our future clear. He possesses rare qualifications and a still rarer experience.

One phase of the case must have struck every observing mind. Although Mr. STEWART'S name was before the country but five days, in that brief space of time the man and his qualifications attracted the attention of the country and filled public mind almost to the exclusion of everything else. This, we submit, would not have been the case had any ordinary man occupied a similar position. The mass, we apprehend, appreciate Mr. STEWART'S noble aim, as they cannot fail to appreciate the talent of all citizens—*practical benevolence*.

THE LAW of 1789.

The existence of the statute of 1789 which disqualifies Mr. A. T. STEWART for Secretary of the Treasury, may prove of some value to the country. It will provoke inquiry into the causes which induced its enactment, and the relations which such causes bear to the present condition and necessities of the Government. The spirit underlying is so indeed admirable, but we see no reason why it should not be applied to every department and branch of the Government. As we understand it the intention is to prevent the manipulation of the affairs of the Treasury Department for corrupt purposes, and to secure an honest and faithful administration of the financial interests of the country. But honesty and economy in the Treasury Department cannot alone secure honesty and economy in any other Department. The disqualifications and restraints which hedge around the Treasury cannot prevent the appointment of men who will corruptly use the powers of the other Departments as their own and against the public interests.

But while we believe that all Departments of the government should be equally protected, we can see no good reason why there should be a law to exclude from the Treasury office the class of men above all others to which the ablest financial talent in the country belongs. The more we examine the law, the more we feel it impossible to obtain a thoroughly competent person who fully conforms to its requirements. The disqualifying clause is as follows:

> "No person appointed to any office mentioned in the act, shall directly or indirectly be concerned or interested in carrying on the business of trade or commerce, or be owner in whole or in part of any sea vessel, or purchase by himself or another in trust for him, any part of the public stock or other property or effects condemned by the sentence of any court, lawfully authorized to make such condemnation; and if any person shall accept any of the said offices, and shall during the time he shall continue in the same, exercise any of the powers or authorities thereof, he shall forfeit and pay to any person who will sue for the same, the sum of two thousand dollars, to be recovered with costs of suit in any court of record in the state where the offender may be found."

A strict construction of the clause will either compel the selection of a mere "machine," or if a competent person is chosen, he compel him to dispose of all commercial and financial interests and to deprive him of the legal right to manage his personal concerns in such a way as to increase his substance. The law books are full of the definition of a "trader," and when those who are indirectly allied to those who are directly concerned or interested in trade or commerce, the number of persons excluded becomes enormous. It is but fair to presume that the man who is not dishonest in his own interests is not competent to manage those of the Government. On the contrary, the public affairs are more likely to be well managed by one who has prospered in the management of his own. To ask such a man to dispose of all private interests, and to lay his wealth up in a napkin for four years, is another a standing in business acquired by years of incessant toil and struggle, is to ask more than the Government pays for and more than should be expected.

The law excludes almost every man who has means invested in the ordinary channels, and, as we believe, the last clause of the above quotation would deny the Secretary of the Treasury the right of receiving dividends on shares in banks whose profits are derived in whole or in part from the purchase and disposal of State and Federal securities.

The purpose of the disqualifying clause seems to be to remove the temptation to act corruptly. Does it do so? We think not. While the direct interests of a man engaged in trade or commerce may tempt him to act corruptly in office, it is just as reasonable to suppose that a man not engaged in either may be tempted by a sufficient consideration from those who are to-focus. We would prefer to have a man for Secretary of the Treasury who is actively engaged in trade or commerce, than one who secretly confluence with another in such business. In the one case, corrupt practices might be more readily discovered than in the other, and the penal provisions of the law, which we would retain by all means, enforced. In the one case the private business of the Secretary would be under the eye of the public, but in the other he might amass a colossal fortune without any knowledge of the public whatever as to its source, and if common rumor is not more than usually at fault, this has been done more than once in our time.

Eighty years have gone by since the law was enacted, and mighty changes have occurred in the people, Government, and our public interests. Then our resources were unknown and undeveloped, but now our trading, commercial, financial and manufacturing interests are dwarfing those of the greatest nations upon earth. Such are the ramifications of our interests that all our people are involved in them. In view of such changes, we do not think that the same necessity exists for the law, as we can see no sound reason for excluding a more limited of men appointed to certain of those from participation in our expanding public interests.

WHAT POLICY?

The tone of the Republican press and the current of public opinion in support of the course of the new Administration in filling the offices, are highly encouraging indications. But the reform aimed at is not going to be achieved without a struggle. Powerful influences are at work to prevent any reform and to retain the old system, whereby not merely party services have been rewarded, but cliques and rings, with vast arrays of retainers and hangers-on, have subsisted from the public treasury and whereby, too, not less than two hundred millions of the revenue is stolen every year. The contest is now going on, but with a resolute man for President, more resolute now than ever, we cannot doubt what will be the result. It is something wonderful to see how many there are who have proclaimed as loudly for reform, and know so well the need of it, who fall back in dismay at the first practical stroke. They appear not to have been in earnest about the matter, but playing a part before the people. Not so, however, the people themselves. *They* are for no backward step, and will support the new Administration so long as the Administration was ever yet supported in carrying out measures for "the faithful collection of the revenue, a strict accountability of every dollar received and the greatest practicable retrenchment in every department of the Government." On this platform the position of the Administration will be impregnable, and the shrieks of cliques, rings and disappointed politicians will avail nothing. Having secured its policy in these clear, ringing words, the new Administration has nothing to do but to go ahead, and execute it with the most vigorous fidelity. The country expects nothing short of this, and the people will applaud while the cliques and rings howl and threaten.

We could fill over columns with what the Republican press is saying on this subject, but we give the following only as samples. The Harrisburg *State Guard* reproduces approvingly what we had to say a few days ago on "Clique Rule in Pennsylvania," and commends thereon as follows:

> "The sentiments thus expressed by the Commercial are sound and sensible, and what the people now ask of Grant is, that he insist upon a strict adherence to the principles of the success of the Republican party as a reform organization, rather than by the conflict and factional feuding of partisan Representatives. The people have obtained such force that it matters little whether the people want to office at the dictation of the National Administration, they cannot be excluded from their functions and Representatives do not sanction what they do in representing the people. We think not, and we are also sure that unless President Grant offers a just defense to the wishes and wants of the mass of Republicans, that will be outraged and he will be defeated in the disposal offices at the commencement of his administration. Public attention is awake to this subject. We are glad of things and shall watch and help the people now call on Grant to clear them out, and not listen to the pleas of corrupt politicians."

The Detroit *Tribune*, a trusted organ of the Republicans in Michigan, says:

> "Gentlemen of the county of the politicians there is no use who desire to be appointed to office under Grant's administration, must immediately come. It is particularly well known that their solicitations regarding it has been that they could make a better President than this, Grant, and although the latter holds the office and has the responsibility, give credit to the former for the greatness, and this is for their own selfish interests. Should ever President Grant feel that he could not succeed himself with men of this character and associations, and lose its power with them, or be embroiled in a serious fall administration. Feeling this, he made selection of men whose aims will be his own, whose ambitions do not transcend upon his fortune, who will accept and not dictate policies, who sentiment, and with whom he can co-operate harmoniously."

The Boston *Traveller*, reflecting the intelligent sentiment of New England, remarks as follows:

> "It seems to be time that President Grant has settled upon the officers of his cabinet, in the formation of his Cabinet, one has no selected politicians for his future connection. If he continues to avoid political managers in the conduct of his administration, the country will have reason to be gratefully grateful. The people are intelligent and wise. Most of the men now in the country are at home, engaged in their own business affairs, but there can readily see and understand how much more they are interested in Congress in political maneuvers than in devising the best means of securing themselves, or promoting the welfare of the country. Their votes are wanted in political conventions, and the great interests of the people are crowded into the last hours of every session of Congress. It is impossible for the wisest and best legislation to proceed under these circumstances. The demagogues and politicians represent some portion of the country in Congress, hence, and partisan questions will struggle to rule against it."

The Philadelphia *Gazette* employs not less pertinent language, when it says:

> "We therefore have conditions from which conflagrations may be kindled at a single touch. Let us trust in that honesty and economy will be at the very heart of the administration. And this is one of those things which have been done as they ought not to have been, and others which have not been done at all. Surely, we have a change of administration!"

The Inaugural Address of *President* GRANT is favorably received by the Southern press and people, and that section of the Union evidently feels a confidence in the future to which it has heretofore been strangers. While they do not regard President GRANT will solve the reconstruction knot, they feel that a stable policy and an honest administration of the Government will be best for them as well as for the country at large. If the Southern people ever expected of GRANT the slightest deviation from the policy of the Reconstruction laws, the prompt reiteration of the old commanders will unbosom them.

The nomination to the Senate yesterday of General LONGSTREET, to be Collector of the port of New Orleans, was a judicious act of recognition of the reconstructed portion of the Southern people, and a step that will exert a most beneficial influence on the Southern mind. Gen. LONGSTREET was the first after the surrender to return to the Union, in spirit as well as word. He took ground openly for the reconstruction laws and the policy of Congress, and has since pursued a course that has won for him the esteem of the whole North and of the right minded men in the South, though those who were rebels still have omitted occasion to denounce him.

The Springfield *Republican*, referring to the prospect of Mr. BOUTWELL becoming Secretary of the Treasury, and the consequent displacement of Judge HOAR from the post of Attorney General, says: "In any event, we accepting the place continue from the CABINET the best confidence that GRANT and SUMNER would have had in their efforts to strike against corruption—we mean Judge HOAR. The country at large does not half know how admirably the Attorney General is fitted for just that sort of co-operation which the Secretary of the Treasury will need; but we know it, and much as we could say in praise of Mr. BOUTWELL, we must regret it as a calamity, if his going into office shall drive Judge HOAR out."

RE-CASTING THE CABINET.

President GRANT sent to the Senate yesterday the name of HAMILTON FISH, of New York, for Secretary of State, in the place of Mr. WASHBURNE, who has resigned; GEORGE S. BOUTWELL, of Massachusetts, in the place of Mr. SUMNER, ineligible, and General RAWLINS for Secretary of War, in the place of General SCHOFIELD. Mr. FISH is well known to the country as one of our most solid and safe men. He has no superior in his elevation of character, and his counsel will always be wise. He will bring to the management of the questions entering in his department a well balanced judgment, firmness of purpose and true dignity of manner. Mr. BOUTWELL has already been so thoroughly discussed in this connection that nothing need be said concerning him. He is understood to have been the President's first choice for the position, and we are certain that the country will warmly approve of the selection. This remark is equally applicable to Gen. RAWLINS, who succeeds Gen. SCHOFIELD. On all sides he is acknowledged to be peculiarly the man for the position.

The recast of the Cabinet has conferred increased strength on the administration, and removed every obstacle to its easy working. The Cabinet is much the strongest for its new make-up, both as to itself and the public.

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

THURSDAY EVENING, March 11, 1869.

In our local market money is in active demand, and applications for loans are above the means of lenders to supply. The banks are so liberal in the dispensation of their discount favors as their circumstances will allow. Very little customer paper is taken. In New York the banks are reported in a somewhat unfavorable condition, owing to the heavy drafts made upon them from country correspondents, and the street is generally adopting itself to such a state of affairs. There is much indignation felt among bank officers, at the law prohibiting the certification of checks except against actual deposits, which is still a theme of conversation in bank parlors, and the law is criticised severely. Various are the expedients resorted to for evading the law, until such time as the good sense of the present Congress shall see fit to repeal the injurious act passed by their predecessors.

—The advance in United States bonds to-day in the New York market arises no doubt from the settlement of the Cabinet appointments, especially the Treasury secretaryship. Jay Cooke & Co.'s letter received by Messrs. McVay & Co., explains the cause of the decline of bonds at the London board yesterday. The market remained very steady all morning at opening quotations, with but few transactions. At 12 o'clock it was known on the street that the Bank of England had called a meeting of the board of directors in view of raising the bank rate of interest to 4 per cent. Rate at once caused the withdrawal of orders from houses who came in the market as sellers of bonds and buyers of gold.

Government bonds are dull, 6's up ⅛ cent, although but little disposition was shown to realize. Sterling exchange is also weak in London, gold opened at 138¾, sold up to 139, fell off again to 138¾, and is now 139. Gold is also weak in New York, opening at 138¾, selling up to 139, and closing at 138¾ bid. The Financial and Commercial prices are as follows: Choice white wheat flour, in bbls, $9 50 @ 10 00; choice red winter wheat flour, in bbls, $9 00 @ 9 50; choice family wheat flour, in bbls, $8 50 @ 9 00; fancy white flour, in bbls, $8 00 @ 8 50; choice red winter wheat flour, in bbls, $7 50 @ 8 00; choice white corn meal, in bbls, $5 00 @ 5 25; Common yellow flour, in bbls, $4 50 @ 5 00; Choice white corn meal, in sacks, $2 00 @ 2 25; Common yellow meal, in sacks, $1 90 @ 2 00; Choice white oats, in sacks, 70 @ 75c; Choice yellow oats, in sacks, 65 @ 70c; Choice white corn, in sacks, 1 40 @ 1 45; Choice yellow corn, in sacks, 1 35 @ 1 40; Choice white wheat, in sacks, $2 30 @ 2 40; Choice red wheat, in sacks, $2 25 @ 2 30; Choice yellow wheat, in sacks, $2 20 @ 2 25; Choice rye, in sacks, $1 60 @ 1 65; Choice barley, in sacks, $1 60 @ 1 65; Choice buckwheat flour, in sacks, $2 50 @ 2 60; Choice timothy seed, per bushel, $3 50 @ 3 75; Choice clover seed, per bushel, $6 00 @ 6 25; Choice flaxseed, per bushel, $2 50 @ 2 75; Choice potatoes, per bushel, 60 @ 65c; Choice onions, per bushel, 75 @ 80c; Choice apples, per bbl, $3 00 @ 3 50; Choice dried apples, per lb, 8 @ 9c; Choice dried peaches, per lb, 15 @ 16c; Choice dried cherries, per lb, 20 @ 22c; Choice dried blackberries, per lb, 10 @ 12c; Choice dried huckleberries, per lb, 10 @ 12c; Choice dried raspberries, per lb, 20 @ 22c; Choice dried currants, per lb, 10 @ 12c; Choice dried whortleberries, per lb, 10 @ 12c; Choice dried plums, per lb, 10 @ 12c; Choice dried pears, per lb, 10 @ 12c; Choice dried quinces, per lb, 10 @ 12c; Choice dried peaches, per lb, 10 @ 12c; Choice dried cherries, per lb, 20 @ 22c; Choice dried blackberries, per lb, 10 @ 12c; Choice dried huckleberries, per lb, 10 @ 12c; Choice dried raspberries, per lb, 20 @ 22c; Choice dried currants, per lb, 10 @ 12c; Choice dried whortleberries, per lb, 10 @ 12c; Choice dried plums, per lb, 10 @ 12c; Choice dried pears, per lb, 10 @ 12c; Choice dried quinces, per lb, 10 @ 12c.

MONEY.

Money easy at 6@7 per cent on call.

GOLD.

Quiet at 138¾, advanced to 139, and closed at 138¾ @ 139 bid. Sales made at 9am, 2 pm, for carrying.

GOVERNMENTS.

Buyers and sellers. Foreign bankers purchased freely. We have no quotations for 6's of 1881, Hooper's and Schenck's bills, and followed to-day's decline in 10-40's. Sales made at 10 a m, 11 a m, 12 m, 2 pm, 3 pm, 4 pm, 5 pm, 6 pm, 7 pm, 8 pm, 9 pm, 10 pm, 11 pm, 12 pm, 1 am, 2 am, 3 am, 4 am, 5 am, 6 am, 7 am, 8 am, 9 am, 10 am, 11 am, 12 am, 1 pm

The Daily Commercial.

CITY MATTERS.

LADIES' TRACT SOCIETY.

Annual Meeting—Report of Managers—Election of Officers.

The annual meeting of the Ladies' Tract Society of Allegheny was held in the Lecture Room of the First Presbyterian Church, on Monday, the 8th inst.

Rev. Mr. Wilkinson presided and addressed the meeting.

Mr. J. W. Dallas read the annual report of the Managers and the report of the Treasurer, which were adopted and ordered to be printed.

On account of sickness, Mrs. Dr. Kennedy was unable to read the report of the Managers.

Another year of active effort has ended, and with grateful hearts we acknowledge the kind hand of our Heavenly Father, and the smile of approval that has crowned our labors with abundant success.

And to our gracious Master who hath so richly blessed our humble efforts to serve Him, be all the glory.

The same monthly rounds of visitation, the same earnest efforts to bring souls to Christ by the dissemination of the sacred truth, with little variation in object or plan, have been pursued during the past year, and the twelfth report is now read.

And although the facts and figures of this report are much the same as those found in former reports, the work has been entirely new. The entire change from your gaining footing in the mere to element and commencement each year, for permanent and systematic work, has given to the old old story of a Saviour's love the added freshness and interest which comes with all the interest of an unheard of message of truth and the work of months have been as full of variety as of interest. Each month has had its own peculiar experiences, and each one of our visitors connected with the society has come back from the monthly meeting with new and larger encouragement to greater exertions and larger success. The object of this society is not to add to the number of our particular form of creed, but "to promote evangelical religion by the publication of tracts, or otherwise as may appear to be most conducive to bringing the masses under the influence of the gospel." In this connection the work of evangelical denominations is the work of each evangelical denomination, and we are only co-operating in their efforts by adhering to our own principles and methods. Our visitations are made monthly, and it is the aim of the society to visit every family in the district at least once a year. We do not limit our visits to any particular class of society, but "to promote such visitation of each and every family, to present such facts, and to urge such considerations as may seem best calculated to awaken a spirit of prayer and a zeal for the salvation of souls." We endeavor, by a small contribution, to speak a word for Christ to every one, calling attention to religious subjects, and trying to inform the truth concerning it in the heart.

In addition to this general work, the sick are sought out and kindly cared for; children who do not attend Sabbath-school are invited to come; neighboring school districts found destitute of religious privileges are visited, and meetings for prayer, for men or for women, in the Lecture Room of the First Presbyterian Church, in the Fifth Ward, in the Second Ward, in the Diamond, in the Fourth Ward, and in the Seventh Ward, Allegheny. Thus, through the efforts of the managers, the Lecture Room has been opened for the use of the public, and invitations to attend the house of God, and thousands who never enter the Sanctuary are every month reached by the influences of the Gospel. Many, many sick and sorrowing are blessed and comforted by the visits of the managers, and many a dying bed has been made bright with the hope of a glorious immortality.

Of the results of the last year's work, the most figures shall represent the good accomplished. Many of the visits have been simply visits of friendship, and have been received and conducted in the kindest spirit, bringing to the managers the assurance that they were the means of removing many false prejudices against the work of evangelical truth, and of increasing the number of those who welcome the visits of the managers. Many have been the instances of sinners who, under the influence of the truth, have been led to the Saviour, and of Christians who have been quickened and comforted. Many have been the instances of sickness and sorrow relieved, and of the poor and destitute who have been helped. Many have been the instances of children who were found from the corner of Liberty street under the railroad track and up the hill to the Fifth Ward, and the region in search of whom eight months ago the managers were encouraged to enter, who are now attending the Sabbath-school, and who, with their parents, are found in the congregations of the sanctuary. Many have been the instances of children who were found in the streets on Sabbath, playing marbles, and who are now found in the Sabbath-school, and